

Artist of Lake Creek



Art, as produced and enjoyed in the Midway area, has been an expression of delight in the handiworks of an Eternal Creator. Artists have captured on canvas and paper the majestic mountains, green vales, sparkling streams and the myriad shades of green on the hills and in the forests.

One of the early pioneer painters was Mark Kirby whose paintings were placed in many of the homes. One of his most beautiful creations was the curtain that hung in the Old Midway Opera House and later the Amusement Hall.

Another accomplished artist was Jacob Arnold Bigler who shared his talent with his townsmen after studying art in Paris and other European areas.

A number of Midway artists have followed professional art careers. Included among these are Verna Berg, who is especially known for costuming, scenery displays and decorations; Paul Kuhni, art supervisor in the Jordan School District of Salt Lake County; Karl Probst, art teacher at Wasatch High School and Richard Van Wagoner who teaches art at Weber College in Ogden. Boyd Van Wagoner also follows an art career with special skill in sculpturing.

Of artists who now live in the Midway area, Ferrin Whitaker is perhaps the most recognized. He was trained in Wasatch schools and later became nationally prominent in advertising art in Chicago. Returning to the home of his boyhood after a successful career, Mr. Whitaker

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THE SIMPLE JOYS

629

took over the Homestead resort and began concentrating on the fine arts. He regularly exhibits at the Utah State Fair where his oil paintings have won first prizes. He also exhibits in California, Arizona and Oregon, and in 1960 presented a successful one man show in Carmel, California and Scottsbluff, Arizona.

His son, Bill Whitaker, has also shown artistic promise in high school art competition, and is recognized as a future professional artist.

Also worthy of mention in the field of art are Mae Buehler Isaacson, who did professional china painting; Reed Kohler and Charles E. Buehler who work in oil paints and water colors; and LaVon Hair who carries on a good business in ceramics.

627

Not in Album

240

67

236

Not in Album

" "

596

Not in Album

" " Kohler 584

710

June Ashton
oil & watercolor (Lowe dr.)

William "Bill" Barber

oil

Sculpturing too